

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
UTILITY SERVICE BOARD  
JUNE 17, 2013**

The Regular Meeting of the Utility Service Board of the City of Jasper, Indiana, was held in the Council Chambers of City Hall in Jasper at 7:00 PM on Monday, June 17, 2013.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wayne Schuetter.

**UPON CALL OF THE ROLL, THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT:**

Wayne Schuetter – Chairman  
Rick Stradtner – Vice Chairman  
Doug Schulte – Secretary  
Ken Sendelweck – Electric Commissioner  
Alex Emmons – Wastewater Commissioner  
Dave Hurst – Water Commissioner  
Keith Masterson – Gas Commissioner

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Jerry Schitter – Electric Distribution Manager  
Michael A. Oeding – Gas & Water Manager  
Ed Hollinden – Wastewater Manager  
Bud Hauersperger – General Manager  
Ashley Kiefer – Office Manager

**ABSENT:**

Renee Kabrick – City Attorney

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** (DVD-00:51)

Chairman Wayne Schuetter led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**QUOTE OPENING: SERVICE TRUCK – GAS & WATER** (DVD-01:09)

Bud Hauersperger opened the quotes and read them aloud as follows:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Ruxer Ford, Lincoln, Mercury<br>Jasper, IN | \$18,773.00<br><u>- 4,000.00</u> trade-in<br>\$14,773.00 |
| 2. Bob Luegers GMC<br>Jasper, IN              | \$20,850.00<br><u>- 5,000.00</u> trade-in<br>\$15,850.00 |

3. Sternberg Ford	\$18,125.00
Dale, IN	- 4,000.00 trade-in
	\$14,125.00

All quotes included a Non-Collusion Affidavit, an Indiana Legal Employment Declaration, a Nepotism Policy Affirmation, and an Affidavit Regarding Non-responsibility.

Sternberg Chrysler of Jasper, Indiana turned in a no-bid due to not being able to order a 2013 or 2014 truck at this time.

Rick Stradtner made a motion to give Oeding permission to purchase the service truck from Sternberg Ford of Dale, Indiana, the low bidder, if it meets specifications. Alex Emmons seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** (DVD-06:00)

Chairman Wayne Schuetter presented the minutes of the May 20, 2013 Regular Meeting and there being no corrections or amendments, asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Doug Schulte made a motion to approve the minutes of the May meeting as presented. Keith Masterson seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

### **IMEA SAFETY DUES** (DVD-06:33)

Jerry Schitter explained to the Board that the annual safety dues for the Indiana Municipal Electric Association (IMEA) for 2013 have increased by 20% from last year. The annual safety dues for 2013 are \$4,879.56. The invoice for the dues was received later this year due to new administration within the organization. IMEA does lobbying at the State House, provides safety programs, and lineman training, which will be needed shortly due to the new employees being hired.

Ken Sendelweck made a motion to approve paying the IMEA safety dues for \$4,879.56. Keith Masterson seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

### **JASPER CLEAN ENERGY MONTHLY REPORT** (DVD-08:33)

Bud Hauersperger explained the Jasper Clean Energy monthly report for May to the Board. Hauersperger stated that there was one change in the report from last month. On June 3, 2013, Duke Kentucky issued an RFP for up to 200 MW of qualified capacity. The RFP is being reviewed by Jasper Clean Energy at this time.

### **STACK TEST REPORT RECEIVED & SENT TO IDEM** (DVD-09:17)

Hauersperger stated that a stack test was performed in April. The results from the test came back, and all requirements were met. The results have been forwarded to IDEM.

### **ELECTRIC PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT** (DVD-09:47)

Ken Sendelweck, Chairman of the Electric Planning Committee, stated the Committee did not meet during the past month.

#### **GAS INSURANCE RATES FOR 2014** (DVD-09:53)

Mike Oeding informed the Board that our liability insurance from Gas Utilities Alliance (GUA) for 2014 has increased from \$2.75 per meter to \$3.00 per meter. This increase will cost the Gas Department approximately \$1,000 more this year, due to the number of meters they have. Oeding passed out an informational brochure about GUA to the Board members.

#### **CHANGE CHARGES FOR METER PARTS** (DVD-11:07)

Oeding informed the Board that the IDEM drinking water branch has implemented a no lead rule regarding meter parts. The new rule will take effect on January 1, 2014. The brass meter parts that the Water Department was using have a very small amount of lead in them. The Water Department can no longer use these materials due to the new regulations. Water Department vendors no longer stock brass parts with lead, therefore all parts being used will have to be replaced.

The Water Department will be required to purchase non-lead brass fittings. A Resolution will be ready by next month's USB meeting regarding the charges for the new meter parts.

#### **BEAVER LAKE GRAFFITI** (DVD-12:17)

Oeding informed the Board that someone has been putting graffiti on the new dam at Beaver Lake. The Electric Department installed a camera today to monitor the spillway.

#### **GAS PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT** (DVD-12:58)

Keith Masterson, Chairman of the Gas Planning Committee, stated the committee did not meet during the past month.

#### **WATER PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT** (DVD-13:03)

Dave Hurst, Chairman of the Water Planning Committee, stated the committee did not meet during the past month.

#### **WASTEWATER PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT** (DVD-13:14)

(Attorney Kabrick arrived at 7:20 PM.)

Alex Emmons, Chairman of the Wastewater Committee, stated that the committee did meet on June 12, 2013. The Committee discussed the leaking digester dome at the Wastewater plant. The leak was discovered by the gas detection system at the plant.

The Committee discussed how much it would cost to replace the dome. The original dome was installed in 1990. In 2002 both membranes were replaced for \$85,000. Hollinden received a

proposal from Siemens for a total cost of \$322,200, which included engineering costs and materials from Siemens and installation by Titan. The cost is considerably more because Siemens will be replacing all old membrane anchors and now utilizes a new biogas membrane for the gas membrane.

Hollinden did look into the price and possibility of changing the whole cover on the dome and found a Wes Tech product that would work. The proposal from Wes Tech was \$426,500. Hollinden is also in the process of contacting Siemens regarding another proposal using Bowen as the installer.

The Committee discussed how to fund the project since it was not calculated in the last rate study, which is done every 2 years. Hauersperger stated that there should be enough money in the Depreciation fund to cover the project. Hauersperger will verify the funds with our Controller

Wayne Schuetter said that it would take 3 ½ years to payback the funds for the dome replacement due to the savings the Wastewater Department receives using the co-gen unit. The Annual savings for utilizing the co-gen unit is \$88,000 a year. Using the dome is environmentally responsible for the City. The Committee decided to recommend replacing the digester dome.

The Committee also discussed the sewer line at the Country Club property. Alpine just came to an agreement with the homeowner's. The Utility Service Board is still waiting for Alpine to approach them again regarding the issue.

Hollinden informed the Board that he did receive two more proposals for the installation of the digester dome. Both proposals were more than Siemens original proposal. Espinosa Group's proposal was over \$22,000 more, and Bowen's proposal was over \$40,000 more than Siemens original proposal.

Hauersperger stated that there were three possible funds to use for this project. The Depreciation Fund and the Operation and Maintenance Fund can be used. We may also be able to utilize the Sewer Plant Expansion Fund if this maintenance falls under that category. Hauersperger also said that some projects on the Capital Expenditure Plan could be postponed if necessary.

Alex Emmons made a motion to give Hollinden permission to change out the 2 membranes for the digester dome for a total of \$322,200 with Siemens. Dave Hurst seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

#### **CHANGE IN PROCEDURE – EQUAL PAY REFUND CHECKS** (DVD-23:50)

Ashley Kiefer informed the Board that there would be a change in the procedure regarding the equal pay refund checks. June is the settle up month and refund checks are sent to customers who have credit balances on their accounts after the settle up.

Kiefer wanted to make the public aware that the customers participating in the budget billing program will receive their refund check, if applicable, in a separate envelope approximately a week after they receive their June Utility bill. In the past, the refund checks were sent in the

same envelope as the June Utility bill. Due to new mailing procedures, the refund checks have to be sent separately this year.

#### **UPDATE ON BEAVER LAKE CONCERNS** (DVD-25:18)

Hauersperger reported that an informational meeting was held on June 11, 2013 regarding the Beaver Lake water levels. Hauersperger stated that the meeting was well attended and thanked the public for their input and concern regarding the lake's water levels and the new spillway. A Water Committee meeting will be scheduled in the next few weeks to review the concerns from the meeting and to discuss the City's next steps.

Hauersperger cautioned the public that the water levels are low around the shoreline, and to be aware of tree stumps when boating.

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT** (DVD-27:05)

Doug Schulte reported the Finance Committee had met and reviewed the claims on the Claim Docket.

The Finance Committee recommended approval of the claims as presented.

Ken Sendelweck made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Rick Stradtner seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

#### **KEN SENDELWECK – ENERGIZING INDIANA** (DVD-27:56)

Ken Sendelweck reminded the Board about a presentation at last month's meeting from Dan Worl, with IMPA, promoting a program called Energizing Indiana. Sendelweck had a home energy assessment done through the program and said he was very pleased with the professionalism of the inspector. Sendelweck also visited the regional office in Evansville to see how to get the word out regarding home assessments. Sendelweck feels this should be a very proactive, promotional campaign. There is no cost for the home inspection and the inspector leaves you with a report on how to improve the energy of your home. IMPA is also supporting local non-profit organizations. For every household that completes a Home Energy Assessment, a nonprofit organization will receive \$25. Each nonprofit organization is eligible to earn up to \$25,000 per program year. Currently there are seven local organizations on the list. Sendelweck encouraged the Board to find a way to help promote this campaign.

#### **RETIREMENTS** (DVD-30:21)

Wayne Schuetter stated that since January 1, 2013 there have been several Jasper Municipal Utility employees retire. Schuetter thanked them for their service to the City, and their contributions to the Utility departments and the citizens of Jasper; Wayne Hopf-20 years, Raphael Fleck-39 years, Rick Vonderheide-37 years, Windell Toby-44 years, Jim Reuber-42 years, and Mike Oeding-35 years.

Schuetter stated that as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, the Municipal Utilities have lost 217 years of experience. These employees are valuable assets. On behalf of the Utility Service Board, previous Boards,

and the rate payers of Jasper, Schuetter thanked all retiring employees. He personally thanked Mike Oeding for his 35 years of service and two great facilities.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33PM upon motion by Mike Oeding and seconded by Alex Emmons. Motion approved, 7-0.

The minutes were hereby approved \_\_\_\_\_ with   X   without corrections this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary Chairman